

I am writing in regard to Petition 04-1160, in regards to XM satellite radio. Many of us who subscribe to XM Radio do so because we are fed up with the content (or lack of!) on our local radio stations. Morning and afternoon drive time radio is the worst example. What little music, local news, traffic, and weather is sandwiched between stunts by those "zany" morning DJ's whose only concern is for ratings. Many of those programs compete for ratings by trying to see who can be the most vulgar. During those times, I usually have my 12 year old son in the car with me, and I don't want him to listen to that kind of vulgarity. With XM radio, I have a wide variety of channels to listen to during my drive, including a family oriented comedy channel, Radio Disney, Discovery, Radio Classics and Sonic Theater where we can listen to classic stories. I also have up to the minute traffic information on a channel dedicated to my local city, without having to wade through the garbage on local radio. Where could I find all that content on my local radio waves? No where.

XM Radio gives me the choice, a choice that I gladly pay for each month. And unlike "local" radio, XM is NOT monopolized by a handful of mega, international, corporations who dictate what they can and can't play. XM actually listens to their 1.7 million subscribers and then makes programming changes based on what their paying customers want, not on what a large corporation dictates. And, the best thing about choosing to pay for and listen to XM radio is that I don't have to listen to endless commercials and the inane drivel that passes for local radio.

I urge you to reject the National Association of Broadcasters petition 04-106. It is yet another attempt by a handful of corporations to dictate to and control what the public hears on radio. I've made my choice, and its XM radio. Please protect that choice for me.

Sincerely,

Marita Mathie